

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented): A design support apparatus which supports a design of a product, the apparatus comprising:

a data generator which generates parts/material data including parts composing the product, kinds of materials composing the parts and mass of each of the materials that differ in kind;

a setting unit configured to set an evaluation condition;

an evaluation unit configured to evaluate a recyclability of the product, using the evaluation condition and the parts/material data;

an analysis unit configured to analyze a factor obstructing the recyclability based on an evaluation result of the evaluating unit;

an output unit configured to output a remedy for an obstruction factor provided as an analysis result of the analysis unit; and

an update unit configured to update, based on the remedy outputted, the evaluation condition and the parts/material data which are used in the evaluation by the evaluation unit, and wherein the evaluation unit is configured to evaluate a recyclability of the product based on the updated evaluation condition and the updated parts/material data, and the output unit is configured to output an updated evaluation result of the evaluation unit.

4. (Previously Presented): The design support apparatus according to claim 3, which further comprises a conversion unit configured to convert the parts/material data used in the evaluation by the evaluation unit to Computer Aided Design (CAD) data including a name of parts composing the product and a quantity or a number of the parts.

5. (Previously Presented): The design support apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the output unit comprises a display unit configured to display at least one part and material having higher recyclability than the parts and the materials and used as a substitute for the parts and the materials corresponding to the obstruction factor.

6. (Previously Presented): The design support apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the output unit comprises a display unit configured to display a demountable portion of the parts and materials corresponding to the obstruction factor as a recyclability remedy.

7. (Previously Presented): A design support apparatus which supports a design of a product, comprising:

- a data generator which generates parts/material data including parts composing a product, kinds of materials composing the parts and mass of each of the materials that differ in kind;

- a setting unit configured to set an evaluation condition;

- a first evaluation unit configured to evaluate an environmental load occurring in a recycling of the product, using the parts/material data and the evaluation condition;

- an analysis unit configured to analyze an aggravation factor of the environmental load based on an evaluation result of the evaluation unit;

- a first display unit configured to display a remedy for the aggravation factor according to an analysis result of the analysis unit;

- an update unit configured to update the evaluation condition and the parts/material data used in the evaluation by the evaluation unit, using the remedy displayed on the first display unit;

- a second evaluation unit configured to evaluate the environment load based on updated evaluation condition and parts/material data obtained by the update unit;

- a second display unit configured to display an evaluation result of the second evaluation unit; and

- a conversion unit configured to convert the parts/material data used in evaluation by the second evaluation unit to Computer Aided Design (CAD) data including names of the parts composing the product, a quantity of the parts or a number of the parts.

8. (Previously Presented): The design support apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the first display unit displays part/material having a lower environmental load than the part/materials and used as a substitute for the part/material corresponding to the obstruction factor as a recyclability remedy.

9. (Previously Presented): The design support apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the first display unit displays a demountable portion of the part/material corresponding to the aggravation factor of the environmental load as the remedy.

10. (Previously Presented): A design support apparatus which supports a design of a product, comprising:

- a data generator which generates parts/material data including parts composing a product, kinds of materials composing the parts and mass of each of the materials that differ in kind;

- a setting unit configured to set an evaluation condition;

- a first evaluation unit configured to evaluate a recyclability of the product and an environmental load occurring in a recycling of the product, using the evaluation condition and the parts/material data;

- an analysis unit configured to analyze an obstruction factor of the recyclability and an aggravation factor of the environmental load based on an evaluation result of the evaluation unit;

- a first display unit configured to display a remedy for the obstruction factor and the aggravation factor according to an analysis result of the analysis unit;

- an update unit configured to update the evaluation condition and the parts/material data used in the evaluation by the evaluation unit, based on the remedy displayed on the first display unit;

- a second evaluating unit configured to evaluate the recyclability of the product and the environment load, using updated evaluation condition and parts/ material data which are obtained by the update unit;

- a second displaying unit configured to display an evaluation result of the second evaluating unit; and

a conversion unit configured to convert the parts/material data used in evaluation by the second evaluation unit to Computer Aided Design (CAD) data including names of parts composing the product, a quantity of the parts or a number of the parts.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented): A method for supporting a design of a product comprising:

evaluating a recyclability of the product based on parts/material data including parts composing a product, kinds of materials composing the parts and mass of each of the materials that differ in kind;

analyzing an obstruction factor of the recyclability of the product based on an evaluation result of the recyclability;

displaying a remedy for the obstruction factor according to an analysis result; and
updating evaluation condition and the parts/material data used in the evaluation according to the remedy displayed, and displaying the evaluation result of the recyclability based on updated evaluation condition and parts/material data.

13. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 12, which includes converting the updated parts/material data to CAD data including names of parts composing the product, a quantity of the parts and a number of the parts.

14. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 12, which includes displaying part/material having a higher recyclability than the part/materials and used as a substitute for the part/materials corresponding to the obstruction factor as a recyclability remedy.

15. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 12, which includes displaying a demountable portion of the part/material corresponding to the obstruction factor as a recyclability remedy.

16-41. (Canceled)